CLAIMS

1. A filtering method for filtering electronic information to be transferred to a terminal through a telecommunication connection, wherein the method comprises the steps wherein:

    a specific filtering parameter is connected by a device transferring the electronic information to the electronic information for the purpose of filtering before the electronic information is transferred to the terminal through the telecommunication connection; and the steps of .

    informing the terminal (MS) of said filtering parameter before the electronic information is transferred to the terminal through the telecommunication connection;

    checking in the terminal said informed filtering parameter and allowing or preventing the receiving of the electronic information on the basis of said filtering parameter, whereupon

    in response to said allowing of the receiving, the electronic information is transferred to the terminal through the telecommunication connection;

    in response to said preventing of the receiving, the electronic information is not transferred to the terminal through the telecommunication connection.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said allowing of the receiving and the transferring of the electronic information are carried out either

    by informing from the terminal of said allowing through the telecommunication connection and by sending the electronic information to the terminal after this through the telecommunication connection or

    by retrieving by the terminal the electronic information to the terminal through the telecommunication connection, and

    said preventing of the receiving is carried out by informing from the terminal of the rejection of the electronic information, whereupon the electronic information will not be transmitted to the terminal.

3. A method according to claim 1, wherein the terminal is a battery-operated terminal and the telecommunication connection is a wireless connection.

4. A method according to claim 1, wherein the electronic information is transferred to the terminal through the telecommunication connection from a server or a second terminal.

5. A method according to claim 4, wherein

the telecommunication connection is implemented by a connection through a telecommunication network, and

said adding of a filtering parameter is carried out in one of the following devices: said server, said second terminal and a messaging server (MM-SC) carrying out the store-and-forward messaging that is in communication with said telecommunication network.

6. A method according to claim 1, wherein said filtering parameter is sent to the terminal in a notification message to be transmitted separately and the electronic information is transferred after this separately to the terminal only if the terminal allows the receiving of the electronic information.

7. A method according to claim 1, wherein the electronic information comprises a header part and a base part, and said filtering parameter is included in the header part of the electronic information and that in the method

the terminal first reads said filtering parameter in said header part; and

the terminal receives the base part of the electronic information only if the terminal allows the receiving of the electronic information.

8. A method according to claim 1, wherein said filtering parameter comprises the information on at least one class of a number of classes agreed on in advance, on the basis of which the electronic information has been classified into said class.

9. A method according to claim 8, wherein said filtering parameter further comprises the information for identifying the original source of the electronic information.

10. A method according to claim 8, wherein said filtering parameter further comprises the information for identifying the content of the electronic information.

11. A method according to claim 8, wherein said class denotes whether the electronic information is one of the following: a personal message, a commercial advertisement and information relating to a specific subject.

12. A method according to claim 4, wherein said filtering parameter is automatically attached by said server or said second terminal to said

electronic information without the user of the device being able to influence the filtering parameter to be attached.

13. A method according to claim 1, wherein in the terminal, it is specified in
5   advance whether the receiving is allowed or prevented on the basis of said specific filtering parameter, whereupon when checking the filtering parameter the terminal compares the informed filtering parameter to said specification made in advance.

10   14. A method according to claim 1, wherein after the terminal receives a notification of a filtering parameter, the method comprises informing the user of the filtering parameter and allowing the user to allow or prevent the receiving of said electronic information.

15   15. A terminal comprising means (RF, AER) for establishing a telecommunication connection and for receiving electronic information through the telecommunication connection, wherein the terminal comprises:
      means (MPU, RF, AER) for receiving a filtering parameter, which filtering parameter is related to the electronic information to be received;
20   means (MPU) for allowing or preventing the receiving of the electronic information on the basis of said filtering parameter and that the terminal is arranged not to receive the electronic information through the telecommunication connection when the filtering parameter denotes the electronic information being prevented.

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16. A terminal according to claim 15, wherein the terminal comprises
      means (UI, MPU) for marking in advance the receiving of the electronic information as being allowed or prevented on the basis of a specific filtering parameter; and
30   means (MPU) for comparing the received filtering parameter to said marking made in advance;
      and that said terminal is arranged to receive the electronic information through the telecommunication connection only when said comparison shows the receiving of the electronic information being allowed.

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17. A terminal according to claim 15, wherein the terminal is a terminal that utilises wireless data transmission comprising means (RF, AER) for wireless data transmission.

18. A system for filtering electronic information to be transferred to a terminal through a telecommunication connection, which system comprises a device for transferring the electronic information and a terminal for receiving the electronic information, wherein the system comprises

5   means (MPU) for attaching a specific filtering parameter to the electronic information for the purpose of filtering before the electronic information is transferred to the terminal through the telecommunication connection;

        means (MM-SC) for informing the terminal (MS) of said filtering

10 parameter before the electronic information is transferred to the terminal through the telecommunication connection;

and that said terminal comprises means for checking said informed filtering parameter and for allowing or preventing the receiving of the electronic information on the basis of said filtering parameter, and that

15   in response to said allowing of the receiving, the electronic information is transferred from said device to the terminal through the telecommunication connection,

        in response to said preventing of the receiving, the electronic information is not transferred from said device to the terminal through the

20 telecommunication connection.

19. A system according to claim 18, wherein

        said terminal (MS) is arranged to allow said receiving either

        by informing from the terminal of said allowing through the

25 telecommunication connection for transmitting said electronic information from said device to said terminal after this through the telecommunication connection or

        by retrieving by the terminal said electronic information to the terminal through the telecommunication connection, and

30   said terminal is arranged to prevent said receiving by informing from the terminal of the rejection of the electronic information, whereupon the system is arranged not to send said electronic information to the terminal.

20. A device for transmitting electronic information through a telecommunication

35 connection to a terminal, wherein the device comprises

        means (MPU) for attaching a specific filtering parameter to the electronic information for the purpose of filtering before the electronic information is transferred to the terminal through the telecommunication connection, which filtering parameter is intended to allow the terminal either

to prevent or allow the receiving of the electronic information over the telecommunication connection on the basis of said filtering parameter.

21. A device according to claim 20, wherein the device comprises
means (MM-SC) for informing the terminal (MS) of said filtering
parameter before the electronic information is transferred to the terminal
through the telecommunication connection.

22. A device according to claim 20, wherein said filtering parameter comprises
the information on at least one class of a number of classes agreed on in
advance, on the basis of which the electronic information has been classified
into said class.

23. A device according to claim 22, wherein said filtering parameter further
comprises the information for identifying the original source of the electronic
information.

24. A device according to claim 22, wherein said filtering parameter further
comprises the information for identifying the content of the electronic
information.

25. A method according to claim 22, wherein said class denotes whether the
electronic information is one of the following: a personal message, a
commercial advertisement and information relating to a specific subject.

26. A device according to claim 20, comprising
means (MPU) for maintaining specification criteria, where there are a
specified number of filtering parameters and criteria on the basis of which the
device is arranged to attach a specific filtering parameter of said number of
filtering parameters;
means (MEM) for keeping said specification criteria protected against
manipulation for preventing the user of the device from changing said
specification criteria, and
means (MPU) for automatically attaching said filtering parameter to the
electronic information on the basis of said specification criteria.

27. A device according to claim 20, wherein the device is a server (MM-SC) or a
terminal (MS).

28. A device according to claim 20, wherein the device is a terminal (MS) utilising wireless data transmission.

29. A device according to claim 22, wherein the device is a terminal (MS) and it
    is arranged to add class information that tells that the electronic information is
    a personal message.